



Fairfax County Public Library
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LOUD AND CLEAR

Summer 2019

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Notes from the Branch Manager's Desk

Welcome to Summer 2019.

I would like to start this newsletter edition by saying thank you to our advisory group, partners, patrons, and volunteers.

Access Services continues to streamline its resources, programs, services and policies. We have switched all patrons to the "Duplication on Demand" feature of our circulation system. Patrons are now able to enjoy multiple books in one cartridge.

Some staffing updates: last month, our long-time reader advisor, Yadira Fernandez retired from Access Services. We thank her for her exemplary service and wish her a happy and restful retirement. Sarah Guy was recently hired as the Talking Book Manager. In this role, Sarah oversees the administrative and circulation functions of the Talking Book Program for Fairfax County and the Cities of Fairfax and Falls Church. Jennifer Su was also hired as the Talking Book Library Assistant. She will provide support to the Talking Books program.

As we progress into the heat prone weather, please stay tuned for more updates from us via your reader advisors. Stay cool and do not forget to sign up for the summer reading program.

Sincerely,

Rose Asuquo

Branch Manager,

Access Services, Fairfax County Public Library

Staff News

We welcome **Sarah Guy**, our new **Talking Book Manager**.

Sarah says, “I went to George Washington University in DC and studied International Relations and realized during that course of study I’m not really the most ideal candidate for foreign service. I then went to Lancaster University in the northwest of England and studied English History (focus 1603 – 1660) and realized that very few people care about Stuart history and I shouldn’t rely on that for a career.

“I started my library career at Charles County Public Library and worked my way through the library system from front desk circulation staff to a children’s librarian to finally becoming the program and youth services coordinator, responsible for all children’s and adult public programs and educational curricula as well as the summer reading program.

“I decided to focus on inclusion and diversity for my master’s course work and, in the course of making that decision, realized I wanted more experience working with a population who used the library outside of the normal capacity. I was immediately drawn to the Talking Book program for all that it offers to patrons who can’t read books in a traditional manner.

Outside of the library, I am a gardener, dog enthusiast and ardent traveler. I travel to the UK regularly to visit university friends, usually stopping in Iceland on the way to or from Britain. My next adventure is to Morocco in 2020.”

Thank you, Sarah! Welcome aboard!!

Farewell to **Yadira Fernandez**, **Reader Advisor**

Yadira said goodbye to Fairfax County Public Library and Access Services at the end of April. She had been serving the residents of Fairfax County for 31 years; all 31 for the public library! Thank you, Ms. Yadira!

She worked at the Reston Regional Library, the Centreville Regional Library and, of course, Access Services where she has been a mighty, mighty Reader Advisor for the last 10 years. Upon retirement, she

immediately took a Mediterranean cruise with her daughters with stops in Spain, Italy and France. Your editor understands there was wine.

When asked about any memories that she wanted to share, she did think of one. It was when, at the last minute, she portrayed the costumed character, 'The Cat in the Hat', for a Read-a-thon that took place in Tysons Corner Center for the library's 70th anniversary. I am sorry that Access Services lost an opportunity to capitalize on this unknown talent, Ms. Yadira.

Yadira will miss all her AS customers because they became her extended library family. Yadira- we salute you! Bon voyage, safe journeys and great thanks.

Summer Reading Adventure

It's Showtime!! Join in the fun with the Fairfax County Public Library Summer Reading Adventure. The theme this year is SHOWTIME AT THE LIBRARY! The program will run from June 13 to August 31, 2019.

Preschool children through third graders are invited to read 15 books. Books can also be read to children. Fourth and fifth graders will read 10, and sixth through twelfth graders should read 5 books to complete the adventure. For a list of grade appropriate authors go to the library's home page and click on 'Summer Reading Adventure, then click on 'Suggested Authors'. Find the appropriate grade level tab and enjoy!

Registration is simple. After signing up for the program online or picking up a paper log from a local branch, children can record the titles of the books they are reading on the electronic Reading Log, which is available through the library's website, or on the paper log. When they have completed their logs, children can visit the information desk at their library to receive a coupon booklet containing free and discounted prizes from this year's sponsors of the Summer Reading Adventure.

Special events will also be taking place at the library branches throughout the summer (<https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/events>). All-Ages events include the “Goodlife Theater: Grandpa’s Farm Show,” where there will be music and puppets. Events for sixth through twelfth graders include “Bright Star Theatre: One Small Step,” where you can learn about the Wright Brothers, the moon, and space travel. Teen events include “Tea with Mrs. B,” an introductory etiquette class.

For a complete listing of the events, along with times and locations, or to register for a program, please visit the library’s website at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library or call our branch at 703-324-8380.

Adult Summer Reading Program

This year, for the first time ever, Fairfax County Public Libraries are hosting a county-wide summer reading program for all adult customers. The adult summer reading program will run from June 13 to August 31, 2019.

We, at Access Services Library, hope that you will join in on the fun! Adults who would like to participate in the program and receive prizes should do the following:

Step 1: Read or listen to at least 5 books or magazines. You can let your Reader Advisor know the titles you have read, or call the main desk, and we will be happy to fill out a reading log for you.

The prize for completing Reading Log 1 is a page of coupons from the sponsors of the program, along with a \$5 Starbucks gift card while supplies last.

Step 2: If you would like to continue participating in the summer reading adventure, read or listen to another 5 books. Then, let us know and we will fill out Reading Log 2 for you.

The prize for completing Reading Log 2 is a drawstring bag containing FCPL goodies. Also, for each log you complete, your name will be entered in the grand prize drawing.

Let the (summer fun) reading begin!

Potomac NFB Hands-On Technology Fair

The Potomac Chapter of the National Federation of the Blind will be hosting a hands-on technology fair on Saturday, June 22. The fair will take place at the Lyon Village Community House in Arlington, Virginia (1920 N. Highland Street) from 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m.

Technology plays a huge role in our lives and from a blind and low vision perspective this is even more true. The hands-on fair will give the blind and low vision community members an opportunity to experience or see demonstrations of devices and programs that include: Smart House devices, Braille Displays and Notetakers, Audio Description Services, Navigation Devices, Smartphone Accessibility, Household Labeling, Medical Devices, and NFB Newslines and more

For questions or to register please contact Nancy Yeager by phone at (703) 812-0953 or e-mail at nancyyeager542@comcast.net. Don't miss this opportunity to explore various technologies and get your questions answered.

Access Services Advisory Group (ASAG): Friends Helping Friends

The members of ASAG are Access Services customers and other interested parties who provide advice and support to the Access Services

branch of the Fairfax County Public Library. They meet quarterly, exchange practical and useful information, and believe that other AS customers may also benefit from their discussions. One of the ways they share information is by submitting articles to the *Loud and Clear* newsletter.

In this issue, the Access Services Advisory Group has submitted a compendium of tips and beneficial practices. In fact, they are follow-ups to information that has been listed in past 'Friends Helping Friends.'

Another item that was discussed at their last meeting was the overall benefit of getting out into our shared community, trying a new or different activity, becoming engaged. It is the hope of the Advisory Group that some activity mentioned in the newsletter will spark your interest, encourage you to go to a museum or a concert. It does take some advanced planning, but the rewards are worth it. 'The Friends' encourage you to make this a summer of your personal adventure. (One way might be to attend their next meeting which will be Wednesday, July 31 at 10:00 a.m., 12000 Government Center Parkway, Suite 123. Call Access Services at 703-324-8380 if you have any questions.)

Friends' Follow-up

Compiled by Kathleen Tozer

Authored by individual group members

More about the Hadley Institute

In the last issue of *Loud and Clear*, Hadley was introduced. This website really needs to be explored to appreciate all that it has to offer. While I had learned a great deal from using their I-phone tutorials, when I re-visited the website, I found other areas that interested me.

I discovered Hadley discussion groups. You can access these by going to the Hadley website (<https://hadley.edu/discussions/>). If you find a group you like, you can sign up to receive an e-mail of up-coming discussions, where you can call in on your phone and listen to the presentation live and interact with the presenter to ask questions. Missed a discussion? Past discussions are available, on-line, on the specific discussion group page.

Discussion groups include: 'Spanish Chat' for those who want to learn and practice Spanish; 'Hadley Growers' which includes several interesting discussions on gardening, and 'Writer's Circle' for those interested in writing projects.

Also, a new group was just added called 'What's Cooking?' This one is definitely on my list. It is frustrating to watch the cooking shows since they are so visual; I'm looking forward to hearing how they describe what they are doing.

There is also a discussion group called Tech It Out, that I have enjoyed. A few of the past topics include:

1. Tech Tools for Getting Around Town-includes discussion of Uber, Lyft, and Go-Go Grandparent
2. Accessing Entertainment with Technology-includes discussion of Smart TV's, streaming and narration services
3. Restaurant and Home Cooking Delivery Services
4. GPS apps

Windows 10 Tutorials from Microsoft

Microsoft Accessibility Learning Webinar Series

For the past several months, Microsoft has been hosting live interactive training sessions to explain the latest accessibility features. Each month you can sign up to be included in the discussion. Space is limited.

However, previous sessions are archived and can be accessed at a later date. June 19 will focus on using Narrator, Microsoft's built-in screen reader. This is following up on the Narrator session in January.

A sampling of past sessions includes: using the magnifier and the low vision features for Windows 10 and Navigating the Ribbons in Windows 10.

I found they move along quickly; so, I need to listen more than once. I am pleased if I take away something new that I can use, even though I have not been able to take it all in. Go to www.microsoft.com/en-us/accessibility and click on the 'webinars' series.

Metropolitan Washington Ear

We have written before about this wonderful service that provides invaluable support for so many people, but it is worth repeating because it offers a wealth of information about what is going on in the Virginia/Maryland/D.C. region. A monthly newsletter covers support groups schedules, meeting times and locations for all sorts of activities, described theater events and so much more.

In addition, it also provides a newspaper reading service, staffed by volunteers, which can be accessed over the phone.

For information and to sign up for the dial in service or to receive your monthly newsletter go to: www.washingtonear.org or, call 301-681-6636.

Now that we've scheduled your summer for you, have a great time exploring! Remember the next meeting of the Access Services Advisory Group is Wednesday, July 31 at 10:00 a.m. at the Fairfax County Government Center. Call Access Services at 703-324-8380 if you have questions.

Best wishes to all.

Reading Roundup

July 20, 2019 will mark the 50th anniversary of the Apollo 11 landing on the moon. Get yourself in the spirit of this milestone event with one of these titles. For more titles call and ask to speak to Rob, our resident 'Space Enthusiast.'

A Man on the Moon by Andrew Chaikin **DB 39809**

Science writer, Chaikin, spent ten years compiling this detailed chronicle of the Apollo missions. All of the surviving astronauts were interviewed, as well as many others associated with the program. In addition, transcripts provided Chaikin with the astronauts' conversations

within the command module. Appendixes include Apollo mission data and astronaut biographical information. Some strong language.

Hidden Figures: The American Dream and the Untold Story of the Black Women Mathematicians Who Helped Win the Space Race by Margot Lee Shetterly **DB 86234**

The daughter of a NASA engineer profiles the black women who worked for NASA, and its predecessor NACA, as human computers. Discusses their lives prior to joining NACA/NASA, the challenges they faced due to gender and race discrimination, and their impact on the space program. This book was the basis for the 2016 movie. 2016.

Rocket Men: The Epic Story of the First Men on the Moon by Craig Nelson **DB 69775**

Prizewinning author retraces America's race against the Soviet Union to be the first to land on the moon. Chronicles NASA's 1969 APOLLO 11 mission using interviews and declassified documents. Provides glimpses into the personal family lives of astronauts, Neil Armstrong, Edwin Eugene "Buzz" Aldrin Jr., and Michael Collins. 2009.

Apollo 8: The Thrilling Story of the First Mission to the Moon by Jeffrey Kluger **DB 88328**

Author of **Journey Beyond Selene (DB 50687)** chronicles the Apollo 8 mission, manned by Frank Borman, James Lovell, and William Anders, which was the first to successfully orbit the earth's moon. Discusses behind-the-scenes interactions in mission control, at the astronauts' homes, and in the labs tasked with making the mission a success. Unrated. Commercial audiobook. 2017.

Lost Moon: The Perilous Voyage of Apollo 13 by Jim Lovell & Jeffrey Kluger **DB 40691**

Apollo 13 was to have been the fifth mission to the moon. But two days into the trip, on April 13, 1970, the oxygen tank exploded in the command module, placing the three astronauts in grave danger. Lovell describes those terrifying days as astronauts, contractors, and Mission

Control struggled to bring Apollo 13 safely back to earth. Basis for the movie Apollo 13. Bestseller.

Space Race: The Epic Battle Between America and the Soviet Union for Dominion of Space by Deborah Cadbury **DB 64644**

Examines the superpower rivalries that fueled the race to the moon and the engineering masterminds behind it: Sergei Korolev in the Soviet Union and Wernher von Braun, a former Nazi, in the United States. Discusses the political paranoia of the cold war era and the technological advances it produced. 2006.

And some for the younger star-dreamers

Mission Control, this is Apollo by Andrew Chaikin **DB 69525**

Chronicles the NASA response to President John Kennedy's challenge to put a man on the moon, describing the successes and failures of all seventeen Apollo missions from 1967 through 1972. Discusses the astronauts' courage, moonwalks, and reactions to space travel. For grades 5-8. 2009.

American Moonshot: John F. Kennedy and the Great Space Race by Douglas Brinkley **DB 94556**

Young readers' edition adapted from the adult version. Brinkley chronicles the space race and the unforgettable moment in history when America sent three Apollo 11 astronauts on a mission with the goal of being the first nation to put men on the moon. Commercial audiobook. For grades 3-6 and older readers. 2019

To Space & Back by Sally Ride **DB 26528**

Describes what it is like to travel in space aboard the space shuttle, where eating, sleeping, getting dressed, and other simple routines become complicated because of weightlessness. For grades 2-4 and older readers.

Liftoff! by Carmen Bredeson **DB 58573**

A simple overview of some of the preparations for a space shuttle launch. Easy reader. For grades 2-4. 2003.

Reading Roundup Special Note

We have had several questions wondering if the Mueller report is available in an audio format. It has not been made available as a Talking Book cartridge as of this publication, however, Sarah Guy, the new Talking Book Manager, did locate a recorded version online.

It's in podcast format, so each chapter is read as an episode. As a result, the chapters may not show in order, but the content contains no commentary. <https://muellerreport.libsyn.com/>

News at Your Convenience: NFB-Newsline

Are you interested in listening to your favorite newspaper on the day it is released? The NFB-Newsline may be what you need. It is a free audio news service provided by the National Federation of the Blind for anyone who has low-vision or is print-disabled or blind.

The NFB-Newsline provides access to major newspapers from all 50 states, national papers such as *The Wall Street Journal* and *Financial Times* and international newspapers. It also provides access to magazines, weather alerts and forecasts specific to your location; and news sources that provide breaking news such as CNN. Retail ads and TV listings can be obtained as well.

There are several ways to sign up for the service. You can sign up by calling Access Services Library at 703-324-8380 to request an application or the National Federation of the Blind line at 866-504-7300. The application is also available [online](#), where it can be submitted directly, or it can be [downloaded](#) as a paper form and then mailed to the NFB.

There are also several methods that the NFB-Newsline information can be delivered to you:

1. Touch-Tone Telephone: Using a touch-tone telephone, dial 888-882-1629. Then, using the phone menu systems, you can first choose the newspaper or magazine you wish to listen to and then pick specific articles, which will be read out loud to you. That day's edition of the newspaper, yesterday's, and the last Sunday's edition of the newspaper, if it is available, can be heard on the phone.
2. The main website, which is Text-Only and screen-reader friendly: www.nfbnewslineonline.org.
3. Email: Newspapers can be emailed directly to your inbox. To get set up, call 1-866-504-7300.
4. The iOS App, free of charge. It can be downloaded onto your iPhone, iPad, and iPod.
5. Devices that use Amazon Alexa, such as Echo and Echo Dot.

For more information, or for help getting started, call Access Services Library.

Upcoming Holidays

Access Services will close on the following holidays. Remember to order extra books to Keep You Reading, especially on the long weekends.

Thursday, July 4 (Fourth of July)

Friday, July 5 (Fourth of July)

Monday, September 2 (Labor Day)

Monday, October 14 (Columbus Day)

Monday, November 11 (Veteran's Day)

Web Corner: Summer of Activity

Things to Do

Fairfax County Summer Entertainment Series

<https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/performances/>

Fairfax County Summer Concert Series: Summer concerts are an American tradition. The Fairfax County Park Authority embraces this tradition with a series of FREE concerts in parks throughout the county. There is a wide variety of music presented, from classical to bluegrass as well as children's performances. Let the music soothe or motivate you into tapping your toe. Share a picnic supper and catch up with neighbors and friends.

Kennedy Center Office of Accessibility

<http://www.kennedy-center.org/Pages/accessibility/services>

The Kennedy Center strives to make its performances and facilities accessible to all patrons. Click here to view a **[schedule of accessible events](#)**. If you have questions or would like to or receive additional information about accessibility at the Kennedy Center, contact the Office of Accessibility at (202) 416-8727 (voice) or access@kennedy-center.org.

Informational

Local Resources - Fairfax County Board of Elections

<https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/elections/>

On November 5 there will be elections for State Senators and Delegates, the Fairfax County Chairman of the Board of Supervisors, and County Supervisors. The Office of Elections is committed to providing each citizen of Fairfax County with the opportunity to exercise his or her right to vote in an efficient and equitable manner in accordance with the Constitutions of the United States and the Commonwealth of Virginia and the Code of Virginia. At this page you can find a world of information about voting in Fairfax County; everything from the registration process, to polling locations, to working at the polls on election days, to voting absentee, and to reading the election results.

Local Resources - Golden Gazette

<https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/familyservices/older-adults/golden-gazette>

The Golden Gazette is a FREE, monthly newspaper dedicated to informing and serving senior adults in the greater Fairfax area. In addition to information of interest to seniors, their families, and caregivers, there are regular features such as Senior Center Highlights and the Community Calendar. The Golden Gazette is published by the Fairfax Area Agency on Aging.

Plus One More to Explore Smithsonian Museums low vision programs. <https://www.si.edu/visit/VisitorsWithDisabilities>

This past March the Smithsonian Museums partnered with Aira company to provide low-vision and blind visitors with groundbreaking technology that enhances their visiting experience. The Aira technology is available at all Smithsonian museums and the National Zoo. The new service is provided by Access Smithsonian, which oversees accessibility and inclusion activities for Smithsonian visitors.

By using their smart phone camera or specially purchased glasses visitors will be connected to highly trained sighted agents who can see from their remote location what is in front of or near the user. The agent then helps the visitor get free on-demand verbal descriptions of everything from individual objects to entire exhibitions or navigate the museum.

For instance, in the National Museum of American History, live agents can guide visitors to specific objects, such as the Ruby Slippers; specific exhibitions, such as “The First Ladies” and the Star-Spangled Banner Gallery; as well as restrooms, cafés and museum stores.

Other ongoing services and materials for visitors who are blind or have low vision will continue to be available, including Braille and large-print brochures and docent-led verbal-description tours. In addition, talking tactile floor plans will soon be installed in the National Museum of American History.

About Access Smithsonian

Established in 1991, Access Smithsonian believes the Smithsonian's exhibitions, programming and content should be inclusive, integrated, independent and dignified. The office is charged with ensuring that all visitors, including people with disabilities, are able to benefit from and have access to what the Smithsonian offers in its buildings, collections and programs. Through collaborations with Smithsonian museums, Access Smithsonian improves access to existing resources and helps design new programs, exhibits and buildings that are accessible to all.

About Aira

AI stands for Artificial Intelligence; RA stands for Remote Assistance. When you put them together, you get Aira. Aira is a service that connects people who are blind or have low vision to highly trained, remotely located agents. At the touch of a button, Aira delivers instant access to information, enhancing everyday efficiency, engagement and independence.

Staff News, Part Two

Masuma Sarwar, Reader Advisor represented **Access Services** at the Foundation Fighting Blindness Visionwalk on Sunday, May 8. The Visionwalk is an annual event where people either individually or as team members walk to raise funds for the Foundation Fighting Blindness. It is a family event complete with breakfast, balloons and a live DJ. We shared an information table with Alexandria City Library and talked to over 30 people about Access Services and Talking Books.

Rob Harsher, Reader Advisor joined **Ken Plummer, Outreach Manager** for an Open House at the Crossings at Chantilly on Sunday, May 15. Residents were able to receive library cards, apply for the Talking Book program and receive information about receiving library books on their computer or personal device through Overdrive and Libby.

28,000 E-audiobooks New to FCPL

The Fairfax County Public Library (FCPL) has expanded its partnership with RB Digital. RB Digital provides digital books and magazines to libraries. FCPL has previously been receiving their magazine service which includes full content (including artwork) of magazines that are available online. The 'new to Fairfax County' service is RBdigital Unlimited. With this service FCPL has acquired over 28,000 E-audiobooks. This is a backfile of books that were published as recorded books 1+ year ago. This service is unique because it allows multiple users/customers to access the recorded books at one time. They are available for immediate checkout, there is no need to wait on a list.

PLEASE NOTE that this is not connected to the Talking Book Program in any way. It is an entirely different resource of recorded material. In order to listen to these books, you will need to have an FCPL library card (Call Access Services to open an account or verify that you have an active library account.), an internet connection, and a smart phone, tablet, or computer.

These E-audiobooks can be found on the library website by clicking on 'Books, Movie, Audio' and then selecting RB Digital (E-books and Audiobooks). For smartphones and tablets, there is an application for RBDigital that can be downloaded. If you have questions about these audiobooks please contact Access Services at 703-324-8380 or via email at access@fairfaxcounty.gov.

Summer Clean-up

Are there cartridges or containers that you have meant to return but instead are hiding and lurking in the corners of your residence? If you have a book cartridge but no container, give us a call and we can send you an empty case. Also, if you are no longer using your Talking Book player please return it so we can give it a checkup and send it to a new customer. Thank you.

As always, please let us know if you are receiving enough books or too many books or not the right type of books. We want to send you the items you like to read. Help us help you.

Contact Us

If you have questions, comments or suggestions concerning the Loud & Clear newsletter, please call Ken Plummer at 703-324-8389. You may also e-mail him at [**access@fairfaxcounty.gov**](mailto:access@fairfaxcounty.gov).

www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library



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